

## Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-11 /080 W

----- 020411

R 081520Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7496

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 0121

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, AU

SUBJECT: WIESENTHAL ENDING HUNT FOR AUSTRIAN NAZIS

REFS: A. VIENNA 10135; B) VIENNA 10212; C) VIENNA 10354

1. CHIEF OF JEWISH DOCUMENTATION CENTER SIMON WIESENTHAL TOLD PRESS JANUARY 7 THAT HENCEFORTH HE WOULD CONCENTRATE ACTIVITIES OF HIS CENTER ON UNMASKING NON-GERMAN NAZI COLLABORATORS- SUCH AS LITHUANIANS AND UKRAINIANS- NOW LIVING IN AMERICAS AND WOULD NO LONGER SEEK OUT AUSTRIAN WAR CRIMINALS SINCE AUSTRIAN COURTS WERE ACQUITTING THEM ANY WAY. HE SAID ESTABLISHMENT OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS OR GENERAL AMNESTY WOULD BE "CLEANER SOLUTION" TO PROBLEM OF WAR CRIMINALS IN AUSTRIA THAN LENGTHLY BUT USELESS TRIALS SUCH AS THAT WHICH RECENTLY ACQUITTED MAUTHAUSEN GUARD, VINZENS GOGLE. WIESENTHAL SAID HE WOULD MOVE HIS PRESENT ARCHIVAL CENTER FROM RUDOLFSPLATZ TO ANOTHER LOCATION IN VIENNA FROM WHICH ITS INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES WOULD BE CONTINUED.

2. ONE REPORTER SAID WIESENTHAL INDICATED HE WOULD CONTINUE TO PURSUE CASE AGAINST FREEDOM PARTY CHAIRMAN  
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PETER, BUT NOT SO MUCH WITH RESPECT TO PETER PERSONALLY

AS TO ACTIVITIES OF SS UNIT TO WHICH PETER BELONGED.

3. COMMENT: WIESENTHAL ANNOUNCEMENT, COMBINED WITH DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED REFTELS, HAS EARMARKS OF CONTRIVED TRUCE BETWEEN HIM AND CHANCELLOR KREISKY IN WHICH EACH HAS DRAWN BACK, UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE FROM ASSOCIATES, FROM BRINK OF TOTAL CONFRONTATION. IF TRUCE HOLDS BETWEEN TWO MEN, WHOSE ANTIPATHY SEEMS TO IMPAIR THEIR BETTER JUDGMENT, OTHER AUSTRIANS, PARTICULARLY YOUNGER ONES, MAY AT LAST FOCUS ON FUTURE LESS BURDENED BY BITTERNESS OVER PAST. DEVELOPMENT COULD ALSO HELP EASE WAY FOR PETER'S RETIREMENT, WHICH ATTACKS ONLY DELAY. BUCHANAN

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## Message Attributes

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